

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of

Kazuhiko Takemura, et al.

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit:

Not Yet Assigned

Filing Date: Concurrently Herewith

Examiner:

Not Yet Assigned

For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS, METHOD, AND PROGRAM

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits and calculation of the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. Claims 12, 21 and 25 have been amended to delete multiple-dependency. No new matter has been added.

**Remarks** begin on page 15 of this paper.